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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/617,641 | WRIGHT, WENDELL LEE | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Anjan K. Deb | 2858 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37.CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment 06/19/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5-12, 14-29 and 31-39.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date <u>08/18/2006</u> 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
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DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to amendment 06/19/2006 after non-final office action 02/27/2006 and IDS 08/18/2006. Applicant has amended claims 1-3, 9 and 17 by incorporating limitations previously indicated to be allowable by the examiner. Claims 35-37 were previously allowed by the examiner. Applicant's arguments (see REMARKS page 12, 2nd paragraph) regarding rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of claim 23 as being obvious over Harnden (US 4,068,281) in view of Symonds (US 5,610,451) that Harnden fails to teach or suggest transient suppression circuitry coupled between the sensor and the power source has been considered and is persuasive.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-3, 5-12, 14-29, 31-39 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-3, 9 and 17 are allowed because they include limitations previously indicated allowable by the examiner.

Claims 5-12, 14-29, 31-34, 38,39 are allowed because they depend from the independent claims mentioned above.

The primary reason for allowance of the claim 23 is the inclusion of transient suppression

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circuitry coupled between the sensor and the power source of the controller, the transient suppression circuitry including a first thermistor to protect the sensor from a power surge by dissipating at least a portion thereof.

Claims 24-29 are allowed because they depend from claim 23.

Claims 35-37 were previously allowed by the examiner.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Mears (US 5,910,775) discloses transient suppression circuit 102 coupled to sensor 30, 32, 34 (bushing sensors) and controller 96,98 operable to provide power supply to sensor (Fig. 2). Mears does not disclose transient suppression circuit including a first thermistor.

Nostrand (US 2004/0125528) discloses transient suppression apparatus TSD1 coupled between sensor S1 and a power source 16 (Fig. 1). Nostrand does not disclose transient suppression circuit including a first thermistor.

Slater (US 2002/0080545 A1) discloses transient suppression circuit for protecting an electronic circuit 6 (load) including a thermistor 3 (PTC) between a power source 2 and the electronic circuit 6 (Fig. 1). Slater does not disclose controller including power source and sensor to detect a change in one or more physical characteristics and provide a corresponding electrical signal.

Campanino (EP 0736,950 A1) discloses transient suppression circuit for protecting an electronic circuit including a thermistor (PTC) between a power source and the electronic

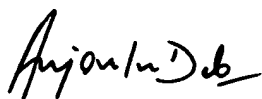
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circuit (Fig. 2). Enrico does not disclose a controller including power source and sensor to detect a change in one or more physical characteristics and provide a corresponding electrical signal.

In the opinion of the examiner it would not have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Mears or Nostrand by adding transient suppression circuit for protecting an electronic circuit including a thermistor (PTC) between a power source and the electronic circuit as disclosed by Campanino or Slater so as to arrive at the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Anjan K. Deb whose telephone number is 571-272-2228. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew H. Hirshfeld can be reached at (571) 272-2168.



Anjan K. Deb, P.E, Ph.D.

Primary Patent Examiner

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9/21/06

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